

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12
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INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 SSM-03 /084 R

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AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
INFO SECDEF WASHDC 0181

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: MASS, US, EG

SUBJECT: F-5 PROGRAM: U.S. PERSONNEL IN EGYPT

1. APRIL 26 WASHINGTON POST CARRIED ARTICLE, DATELINED CAIRO, BY THOMAS LIPPMAN IN WHICH HE REPORTED THAT PROPOSED F-5 SALE "...BEGINNING TO TOUCH SENSITIVE POLITICAL NERVES HERE (I.E. EGYPT)..." LIPPMAN THEN POSITED GOE DESIRE TO KEEP AMERICAN TEAM AS SMALL AS POSSIBLE, PARTLY MOTIVATED BY MEMORIES OF EXPERIENCE WITH SOVIET ADVISERS. REST OF ARTICLE DEALT WITH EAF NEED FOR AIRCRAFT, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF FAILURE TO PURCHASE FRENCH F-1.

2. FOLLOWING IS CONTINGENCY PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR APRIL 26 NOON BRIEFING (NO QUESTIONS POSED). POSTS MAY
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DRAW ON THIS IN RESPONSE TO ANY INQUIRIES FROM MEDIA.

3. "...Q. IS THE UNITED STATES PLANNING TO SET UP A MILITARY TECHNICAL AND TRAINING PROGRAM IN EGYPT AS PART OF THE F-5 TRANSACTION?

A. --BOTH WE AND THE GOE HAVE THE SAME OBJECTIVE IN MIND,

NAMELY THAT A MINIMUM NUMBER OF U.S. PERSONNEL SHOULD BE IN EGYPT FOR THE SHORTEST PERIOD OF TIME.

--CONCERNING TRAINING, A SMALL NUMBER OF EGYPTIANS WILL BE SENT TO THE UNITED STATES FOR INITIAL TRAINING. THEREAFTER, TRAINING WILL TAKE PLACE IN EGYPT USING PRIMARILY EGYPTIAN INSTRUCTORS.

Q. HOW MANY AMERICANS WOULD BE ASSIGNED WITHIN EGYPT IN CONNECTION WITH THE F-5 PROGRAM?

A. --THE PRESENT PLAN IS TO HAVE ABOUT TEN UNITED STATES MILITARY PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO EGYPT TO OVERSEE INTRODUCTION OF THE AIRCRAFT INTO THE EGYPTIAN AIR FORCE AND CARRY OUT SOME INITIAL TRAINING FUNCTIONS.

--BEYOND THAT, A LIMITED NUMBER OF PRIVATE AMERICAN CONTRACT PERSONNEL WOULD ALSO BE IN EGYPT. THE EXACT NUMBER AND DURATION OF THEIR STAY WILL BE DETERMINED ON THE BASIS OF THE SITE SURVEY TO BE CONDUCTED AFTER THE TRANSACTION IS FINALLY APPROVED. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY PERSONNEL, FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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